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Davis Awards \$290,070 Grant to Switzerland County for Sewage System Upgrades

INDIANAPOLIS—Lt. Gov. Kathy Davis today awarded a \$290,070 Community Focus Fund grant to Switzerland County for wastewater system improvements.

Switzerland County officials have announced plans to begin work on the second and final phase of a multi-year sewer system project. The Florence Regional Sewer District will extend service to areas currently served by septic systems, including Markland and the surrounding locations.

"This project is great news for a community in need of municipal wastewater utilities," said Davis, who serves as the director of the Indiana Department of Commerce. "We are happy that we are able to support the project."

Residents will be connected to the Florence Regional Sewer District to eliminate reliance on old, outdated and unsanitary septic systems. This will be a much-needed upgrade to the current wastewater disposal system and help the community gain compliance with the State Board of Health.

The Community Focus Fund (CFF) is a federally funded grant program administered by the Indiana Department of Commerce. The funding is available to small cities, towns and counties for construction projects designed to benefit low- to moderate-income individuals or to eliminate blight in communities. Grants are awarded through competitive funding rounds to assist small communities in long-term development projects.

Projects eligible for CFF grants include local infrastructure improvements, childcare facilities, senior and community centers, downtown revitalization and fire stations and fire trucks. Up to \$500,000 is available per applicant. A match of at least 10 percent is required from the grant recipient.

In this, the second round of funding for 2004, 37 Hoosier communities shared in nearly \$15 million in funding.

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For more information about the CFF grant program, contact the Office of Community Assistance in the Community Development Division of the Indiana Department of Commerce at 800.824.2476 or access its Web site at www.indianacommerce.com.

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